



SRCAF NOTES ~ August, 2004

The Sacramento River Conservation Area Forum Board Members:

Lynnel Pollock ~ Chair, *Yolo County*
Marc Faye ~ Vice Chair, *Yolo County*
Glenn Hawes ~ Sec./Treas., *Shasta County*
Don Anderson ~ Immediate Past Chair,
Glenn County

Brendon Flynn, *Tehama County*

Bill Borrer, *Tehama County*

Denny Bungarz, *Glenn County*

Ben Carter, *Colusa County*

Jim McKevitt, *The Resources Agency*

Jane Dolan, *Butte County*

Dan Gover, *Shasta County*

Shirley Lewis, *Butte County*

Dan Silva, *Sutter County*

Doug White, *Colusa County*

Russell Young, *Sutter County*

Ex-Officio Members:

Frank Michny, *Bureau of Reclamation*

Darrin Thome, *U.S. F&WS*

Mark Charlton, *Corps of Engineers*

Diana Jacobs, *Department of Fish & Game*

Pete Rabbon, *The Reclamation Board*

Dwight Russell, *Department of Water Resources*

Burt Bundy, *Manager*
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Future SRCAF Board and Committee Meetings ~

LAC meeting - September 3, 2004,
10:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m., Colusa
County Farm Bureau Office, Colusa

TAC meeting - September 7, 1:00 to
2:30 p.m. Willows City Hall, Willows
A workshop is scheduled at 2:30 on
Action Specific Implementation Plan
-required on all CALFED funded
projects if there is potential for take
under federal or state laws.

SRCAF Board meeting - September
16th, 3:00 p.m., Monday Afternoon
Club, Willows.

Projects/Activities Updates

Hamilton City - On August 23, 2004, the SRCAF facilitated a Work Group meeting to discuss, among other things, the legislative status of the project. The Draft Feasibility Report/Environmental Impact Statement/Environmental Impact Report was submitted for printing in the Federal Register on April 9, 2004 triggering a 45-day comment period. The 45-day public review period ended on May 24, 2004. The SRCAF participated in a Hamilton City Public/Agency Workshop on May 6, 2004 which was held to present the Tentatively Recommended Plan and receive public comments. Authorization for Pre-construction Engineering and Design is included in WRDA (Water Resources Development Act) 2004. Passage of WRDA 2004 is needed to move forward. Jose Puente reported that the HCCSD and local landowners had agreed to form a Reclamation District to maintain the levee and would petition Glenn County to do so. **The annual Hamilton City Levee Festival will be held on October 3, 2004.**

M&T/Llano Seco- The process has been underway to determine a long-term solution to the gravel bar intrusion at the M&T/Llano Seco Pumping Station. In 2004 the project proponents submitted a successful grant amendment to their original proposal requesting a time extension and funding to do additional studies to analyze the use of Ranney Collectors as an alternative off-stream water source and to allow additional modeling to look at the sediment transport at this site, the effects of existing revetment upstream (and possible removal) on the site, and to simulate the effect of the placement of 8 groins. The first phase of the report will be out soon but will remain in draft form until the results of the next round of studies can be added. The project continues to be reviewed at the TAC and Board meetings.

Sacramento River Conservation Area Forum Strategic Planning

The Board has adopted a Strategic Plan with policy statements. The Mission iterates the organization's commitment to effective resource restoration and management that is sensitive to the needs of local communities. The Long Term Vision is one that views the Sacramento River as a thriving, healthy ecosystem that supports abundant fish and wildlife and where agriculture supports a sustainable rural lifestyle. Along with *Habitat Restoration*, the Core Values include *Balance*, *Communication*, and *Working Together* as important to the SRCAF. Five Programmatic and three Organizational Goals and Strategies provide the basis for the Annual and Three Year Plans that guide the implementation phase of the planning process.

Colusa Sub-reach Study- A contract between TNC and CALFED, originally scheduled to be finalized in 2003, was finalized in April, 2004 and will extend to 2007. The MOA between the SRCAF and TNC was approved by the SRCAF Board of Directors in June, 2004. The Project involves a comprehensive approach to restoration planning and includes a high level of stakeholder involvement. The SRCAF is named as a sub-contractor to provide community outreach, meeting coordination, and an advisory role in guiding this study.

■ AT THE TECHNICAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE (TAC) ~ In April the TAC made a site visit to the Ord Bend Unit Restoration Project, Sacramento River National Wildlife Refuge. A variety of land uses (residential, commercial, and agriculture) are adjacent to the site. The project incorporated a number of measures in an effort to minimize impacts to the adjacent neighbors. The group also visited a private landowner's property to discuss trespass issues and deer predation in the orchards closest to riparian habitat. One measure he has used to discourage the deer is a buried electronic fence that contains the dogs within the orchard. The TAC has been discussing cross-boundary issues to try to look at real world issues from those who have lived, farmed, and managed habitat long the river and attempt to provide some possible solutions. The TAC heard updates on several projects including the M&T/Llano Seco Fish Screen Facility Short/Long-Term Protection Project, the Hamilton City Ecosystem Restoration and Flood Protection Project, the Llano Seco Riparian Sanctuary Project, Reclamation District 108's project which will consolidate three pumping plants into one pumping facility and fish screen, and the Draft Comprehensive Conservation Plan and Environmental Assessment for the Sacramento River National Wildlife Refuge which has been completed. The Committee reviewed a proposal by The Nature Conservancy involving the acquisition of a flood-prone portion of the Womble Ranch located inside the levee in Colusa and Glenn Counties.

Ernie Ohlin, Tehama County Flood Control, reported on recent efforts by Tehama County to clean the boat ramp at Woodson Bridge. Working with the Department of Fish and Game and U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS) they were able to leave the gravel in-stream rather than hauling it away using an excavator that was provided by USFWS.

■ AT THE BOARD ~ The SRCAF Board of Directors held its June 17th meeting at the Colusa-Sacramento River State Park followed by a barbeque and boat tour. Board member Bill Borrer brought the steaks and Board member Diana Jacobs and husband Rick provided the salmon. Our thanks as well to Board member Doug White for providing us with some additional shade, Board member Ben Carter and his wife for their help in returning tables and chairs, and to Joyce

Bundy for helping with the clean up. Following the June meeting and barbeque, a boat trip was made available for Board members and guests to tour the area of the river that will be the focus of the Colusa sub-reach planning study. Many thanks to the Department of Fish & Game, U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service, Department of Water Resources, and local fishing guide Frank Townley for making the tour possible by providing the boats and drivers.

The 2004 Annual Meeting of the SB1086 Advisory Council will be held jointly with the CALFED Ecosystem Restoration Program's Bay-Delta Public Advisory Subcommittee on October 21, 2004 in the California Bay-Delta Authority offices on the 5th Floor at 650 Capitol Mall in Sacramento.



Project Tracker website – The SRCAF interactive project tracking website has been established. Even though it is up and running, it is currently being tested before it becomes public. It will be available for entering new projects the first part of September. An announcement will be sent out with the website address as soon it is fully functioning.